

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 19, 2016

I am pleased to join in celebrating the 150th anniversary of the establishment of the U.S. Consulate General in Strasbourg.

The bonds between the United States and France were forged in the midst of revolution, nearly a century before the doors of the U.S. Consulate opened in the heart of Europe. Through times of trial, triumph, and transformation across the continent, the dedicated professionals of this Consulate have carried forward the shared values of our two great nations. Today, our resolve is as strong as ever as we reach for a future worthy of the hopes and dreams of rising generations.

Your efforts sustain an enduring partnership, not only between the United States and France, our oldest ally, but also with the rest of Europe. As you continue working to uphold our common ideals and advance our mutual interests in democracy, human rights, and the rule of law, you have my best wishes.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "Barack Obama", with a large circular flourish on the left and a horizontal line extending to the right.